

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Response is in response to the Office Action dated January 13, 2005. Claims 1-87 are pending in the present application.

In the above-mentioned Office Action, the Examiner stated that claims 1-87 are subject to a restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 121. In particular, the Examiner stated that

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-8, 73-80, 37-44, are drawn to generating an identifier for the content of the selected file using the fingerprinting algorithm, classified in class 709, subclass 201.**
- II. Claims 9-13, 45-49, 81, are drawn to accessing a database using messages to search within the database over the network using search criteria, classified in class 707, subclass 3.**
- III. Claims 14, 15, 50, 51, 82, are drawn to transferring different multiple portions of a file from one device to another device and handling the file transfer process, classified in class 715, subclass 748.**
- IV. Claims 16-18, 52-54, 83, are drawn to identifying devices over the network base on handling of shared files having their perspective identifiers different from their respective filename, classified in class 709, subclass 223.**
- V. Claims 19-21, 55-57, 84, 87, drawn to generating a message with a list of file records relating to files stored in the network and utilizing the list of file records information to locate files in the network, classified in class 709, subclass 217.**
- VI. Claims 22-28, 58-64, 85, 86, drawn to identifying network addresses of the devices for communication over the network, classified in class 709, subclass 227.**
- VII. Claim 29-36, 65-72, drawn to constructing a file by assembling portions of the file using file mapping information, classified in class 707, subclass 10.**

Inventions I to VII are unrelated and have only one-way distinctions with each other.

Invention II has a separate utility such as accessing a database using messages to search within the database over the network using search criteria.

Invention III has separate utility such as transferring different multiple portions of a file from one device to another device and handling the file transfer process.

Invention IV has separate utility such as identifying devices over the network base on handling of shared files having their respective identifiers different from their respective filename.

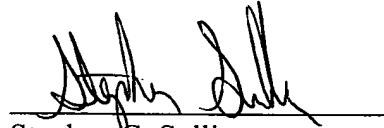
Invention VI has separate utility such as identifying network addresses of the devise for communication over the network.

Applicant hereby elects Group I, claims 1-8, 73-80, and 37-44, with traverse.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant's attorney believes that this application is in condition for allowance. Should any unresolved issues remain, Examiner is invited to call Applicant's attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

SAWYER LAW GROUP LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen G. Sullivan", is written over a horizontal line.

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February 11, 2005

Date